

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, between the Title and the first paragraph, insert the following new paragraph:

**-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application is a National Stage entry of International Application Number PCT/ES2003/000421, filed August 13, 2003. The disclosure of the prior application is hereby incorporated herein in its entirety by reference. --

After page 13, insert the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:

**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a method of optimising signal coupling between a dielectric guide and a photonic crystal guide. The inventive method is based on introducing point defects into a coupling structure that is required to adapt the width between both guides. The number and characteristics of said defects depend on both the characteristics of the coupling structure and the photonic crystal and dielectric guides. By introducing said defects into the aforementioned structure, the coupling is optimised within a wide range of frequencies, thereby enabling optical signals to be introduced into or extracted from any device that is made from photonic crystals without involving a drop in performance owing to inefficient coupling.